

# Legislative Reference Service

WEEK ENDING 3-14-03

HOUSE BILLS ONLY

NO. 3

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

**H-5673 BUILDING INSPECTORS** (Montanaro & Others) This act would make changes in the building code regarding financing the continuing education program for building inspectors, insurance bond requirements, and boiler installation requirements. It would also change posting requirements. Labor

**H-5719 LEAD PAINT** (Handy & Others) This act would provide for an income tax credit for lead paint abatement and lead paint control measures in residential dwellings. Finance

**H-5772 ELECTRICIANS** (Kilmartin) This act would amend certain provisions relative to the certification of electricians and the duties and work options available under various electricians' certifications. Labor

**H-5912 LOW INCOME HOUSING** (Brien & Others) This act would relieve communities of the limitation on taxation applicable to certain low and moderate income housing. Corporations

**H-6135 PLACES OF ASSEMBLY** (Moura & Others) This act would require the installation of sprinkler systems in all place of assembly. H.E.W.

**H-6141 FIRE SAFETY CODE** (Landroche & Others) This act would amend and update various aspects of the fire safety code. Corporations

## **EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS**

**H-5548 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES** (Costantino & Slater) This act would provide that children placed by DCYF in residential facilities have their entire cost of education paid by DCYF if the facility has a contract with DCYF and the contract existed on January 1, 2002. Finance

**H-5558 EDUCATIONAL EXPENSE EXEMPTION** (Reilly & Coogan) This act would provide for a tax credit which equals 20% of the first \$150 spent on qualifying educational expenses for any student in a qualified institution including home care. It also would provide that certain low income families would have the tax credit regardless of tax liability. Finance

**H-5574 COZ FAMILY CENTERS** (Lewiss & Others) This act would establish a Child Opportunity Zone (COZ) Family Center Fund and appropriate \$1,000,000 for the development of existing or new COZ family centers. Finance

**H-5576 STUDENT BUS PASSES** (Slater & Others) This act would mandate that the public transit authority issue free bus passes to all public high school students. Finance

**H-5596 MOTOR VEHICLES** (Tejada & Others) This act would require that all 16 to 18 year old children who apply for a driver's license and those students eligible for driver education programs have a minimum 80% attendance record at their respective school or be a full-time employee or participant in a voluntary work program in order to be eligible for the application. H.E.W.

**H-5597 CURRICULUM** (Dennigan & Others) This act would require the Department of Health to establish programs to encourage physical exercise and proper nutrition in children. H.E.W.

**H-5642 SUBSTITUTE TEACHING** (Crowley) This act would allow retired teachers to fill the vacant position of a mentor principal or assistant mentor principal for a period of up to 90 days in any one school year, without a reduction in retirement pay and/or benefits. Finance

**H-5643 TELECOMMUNICATIONS** (Crowley & Others) This act would establish the Rhode Island Telecommunications Education Access Fund. Finance

**H-5648 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (Amaral & Others) This act would allow schools that enroll students in kindergarten through grade 3 and are rated as high performing to expend 75% from their allotted professional development investment fund, and any school rated as a moderate performing to expend up to 50% toward other professional development programs. Finance

**H-5654      KINDERGARTEN** (Montanaro & Others) This act would increase the amounts that the general assembly would appropriate and distribute to each district for the kindergarten investment fund. Finance

**H-5727      TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS** (Coderre & Others) This act would require all public school districts to transport school children to or from child care facilities located within the school districts' boundaries. Corporations

**H-5733      SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS** (Kilmartin & Others) This act would establish a school for pre-professional training in the performing, visual, literary and media arts. Finance

**H-5736      FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN** (Menard & Others) This act would increase the appropriation to the full day kindergarten investment fund as follows: (1) for districts with a tax effort index of 0.6 or less, from \$1,500 to \$4,000; (2) for districts with a tax effort index of 1.0 or below, from \$1,000 to \$3,500; (3) for all other districts, from \$500 to \$3,000. Finance

**H-5763      SCHOOL DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES** (Gorham) This act would permit all public school department employees to reside outside of the city/town of employment. Corporations

**H-5793      EDUCATION TRUST FUND** (Reilly & Coogan) This act would create an education trust fund, funded by lottery and/or gambling revenues, to be distributed on a per student basis. Finance

**H-5815      STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODES** (Winfield & Others) This act would direct public schools to adopt policies that prohibit bullying. H.E.W.

**H-5824      COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE** (Crowley) This act would change the date from December 1 to September 1 in determining if a child is 6 years old and must attend school. H.E.W.

**H-5825      TEACHER ASSISTANTS** (Crowley & Sherlock) This act would amend the requirements for being a teacher's assistant. H.E.W.

**H-5826      ATHLETIC COACHES** (Crowley) This act would require applicants for coaching positions in public schools to have a relatively updated first aid certificate, and would require the participating schools to require proof of the certificate. H.E.W.

**H-5831      SCHOOL ABSENCES** (Reilly) This act would require students 16 years old or older who are receiving cash assistance to have no more than 10 unexcused absences from school per quarter to maintain eligibility. H.E.W.

**H-5832      CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (Crowley) This act would eliminate the requirement that no more than two charters be granted in a single school

district, and the restriction that no more than four charters may be granted in a district with more than 20,000 students. H.E.W.

**H-5833 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN** (Amaral & Others) This act would amend the provisions of the general laws governing the establishment of residency of a child in a school district. The act would also direct school districts to provide written notice to a child's parent or guardian in the event the district determines that the child is ineligible to attend school in that district due to a lack of residency. H.E.W.

**H-5834 MIDDLE SCHOOL REFORM ACT** (Giannini & Others) This act would require school communities in every city/town to initiate policies to improve the educational performance of its middle schools. H.E.W.

**H-5836 SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS** (Schadone & Others) This act would require school administrators to incorporate a formal notice of threat policy in their school safety plans. H.E.W.

**H-5837 MIDDLE SCHOOLS** (Giannini & Others) House resolution urging the Department of Education to convene a high profile education summit to improve all the middle schools in Rhode Island. H.E.W.

**H-5838 SCHOOL COMMITTEES** (Giannini & Others) This act would require that school committees be elected. H.E.W.

**H-5843 SCHOOL HEALTH** (Handy & Others) This act would establish a school environmental health unit within the Department of Health to promote methods to reduce the incidence of respiratory and other ailments in state schools. H.E.W.

**H-5886 ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM** (Smith & Others) This act would establish an Alternative School Pilot Program to be adopted by the Board of Regents of Elementary and Secondary Education and the local school committees for the purpose of educating children who have been expelled from school or have otherwise been determined to be unsuitable for attendance at a regular school. Finance

**H-5887 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM** (Lima & Others) This act would provide funding of up to \$150,000 per school district (up to 4 districts) to establish alternative programs where students are chronically truant or suspended for more than 10 days. Finance

**H-5894 SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS** (Smith & Lima) This act would require school districts to employ one full-time speech language pathologist for every 40 students receiving speech language services. Finance

**H-5919 SAFETY OF PUPILS** (Smith & Others) This act would require schools to adopt policies that prohibit harassment, intimidation and bullying by students at school. H.E.W.

**H-5920 DRIVER EDUCATION** (Menard & Brien) This act would eliminate certain requirements for driver education instructors. H.E.W.

**H-5921 TRUANCY OUTREACH** (Smith) This act would require the Department of Human Services to adopt an outreach system, in cooperation with school departments, for families with children who are truant. H.E.W.

**H-5926 PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT** (Amaral) This act would establish guidelines and procedures for parents and students wishing to attend public high schools outside the school district where they reside. H.E.W.

**H-5927 RIGHT TO A SAFE SCHOOL** (Smith & Others) This act would allow school committees to assess a student's off school property conduct in determining if a student is disruptive, and in suspending students. H.E.W.

**H-5937 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES** (Callahan & Others) This act would authorize the appropriation of funds, through a supplemental budget if necessary, to fund group homes. Finance

**H-5938 ATTENDANCE RATES** (Smith & Lima) This act would establish an elementary and secondary school truancy investment fund to assist school districts to improve attendance rates. Finance

**H-5955 CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (McHugh) This act would provide that no student would transfer from a moderate or high performing school to a charter school that has no performance rating. H.E.W.

**H-5956 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS** (Smith & Others) This act would establish alternative education programs for students removed from the classroom. H.E.W.

**H-6023 PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS** (Wasylyk) This act would require municipalities to include a prohibition against school personnel recommending the use of psychotropic drugs for pupils as part of the local comprehensive substance abuse prevention program. H.E.W.

**H-6054 SCHOOL BUS DISTRICTS** (Long & Others) This act would mandate state financing of bus transportation to public school pupils by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Finance

**H-6055 STUDENT EQUITY INVESTMENT FUND** (Long & Others) This act would allocate moneys from the student equity investment fund based on each

district's proportion of resident children eligible for USDA reimbursable school meals relative to the total number of eligible students statewide. Finance

**H-6059 SCHOOL BUS DISTRICTS** (Long & Others) This act would require the state to reimburse local school communities for the entire cost of transportation of pupils to another city/town as required by state law. This act would also require the Director of the Department of Education to determine the appropriate formula for reimbursement. Finance

**H-6070 HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION** (Dennigan & Others) This act would clarify the areas of instruction in health and physical education to children in grades 1 through 12 who attend public schools. H.E.W.

**H-6098 SCHOOL BUS MONITORS** (Picard) This act would remove the requirement that school bus monitors be present on all school bound and home bound routes. H.E.W.

**H-6100 HABITUAL TRUANTS** (Winfield) This act would set eligibility requirements for school attendance to obtain a driver's license for minor students. H.E.W.

**H-6105 KINDERGARTEN** (Lima) This act would establish the Kindergarten Plus Incentive Fund. This money would be used to fund summer instruction programs for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students, and professional development programs for teachers. H.E.W.

**H-6138 PUBLIC SCHOOL TELEPHONE CHARGES** (Long & Others) This act would require telephone companies doing business in the state to charge public school districts residential rates for the provision of telephone services. Corporations

**H-6164 SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS** (Menard) This act would amend the statute relating to operators' and chauffeurs' licenses and minimum wages for school bus drivers. Labor

## **ELECTIONS**

**H-5550 LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES** (Enos & Others) This act would prevent employees of local canvassing authorities from serving on local canvassing boards. Finance

**H-5633 DISQUALIFICATION BY FAILURE TO AFFILIATE** (Carter) This act would require that an individual must designate his/her affiliation with a particular political party at least 120 days before the primary election in order to qualify to vote in the election. Judiciary

**H-5641 MAIL BALLOTS** (Crowley & Others) This act would allow U.S. citizens residing outside the United States to register to vote and to apply for a mail ballot only for federal offices through the use of the federal post card application (FPCA). This act would also eliminate the requirement of notarization or attestation for these registration and ballot materials. Finance

**H-5646 ELECTION WORKERS** (Fox) This act would allow the current remuneration exemption for election workers to be raised to the amount allowed by Social Security. Finance

**H-5666 HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT** (Lima & Others) This act would establish a complaint procedure for the Board of Elections to act upon complaints under the Help America Vote Act. Judiciary

**H-5713 LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES** (Palumbo & Others) This act would allow an officer or employee of the United States to be appointed or to serve as a member of a local canvassing authority. Corporations

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**H-5809 WATER QUALITY PROTECTION CHARGE** (Reilly & Others) This act would make the water quality protection charge assessed on supplies of water nontaxable. Finance

**H-5847 C.R.M.C. – PERMITTING** (Gallison & Others) This act would require notice of all permit applications filed with the coastal resources management council to all property owners within a 500 foot radius. Environment & Energy

**H-5879 BROWNFIELDS** (Ginaitt & Others) This act would create a tax credit for Brownfield Remediation. Finance

**H-5904 PAWTUXET RIVER AUTHORITY** (Lima & Others) This act would create the Pawtuxet River Watershed Council, and would grant the power to issue general obligation bonds. Corporations

**H-6042 REFUSE DISPOSAL** (McHugh & Others) This act would allow the Department of Environmental Management to approve solid waste management demonstration projects. Environment & Energy

**H-6049 TIRE DISPOSAL PILOT PROGRAM** (Dennigan & Others) This act would create a pilot program to regulate the disposal of used tires. Environment & Energy

## **FINANCE AND TAXATION**

**H-5543 VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS** (Dennigan & Others) This act would provide a property tax exemption for any veteran who served in any conflict or undeclared war after Bosnia, without the necessity of a campaign ribbon or expeditionary medal having been awarded. Corporations

**H-5569 SCHOOL HOUSING AID** (Reilly & Others) This act would increase the amount of the state's reimbursement to public school districts for school housing aid by 10%. Finance

**H-5573 TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST** (Lewiss & Others) This act would provide that a tax exemption created by either the general laws and/or a public law or municipal ordinance would not be affected by the transfer of property to a revocable living trust. This act would apply to any such transfer, regardless of when it is made. Finance

**H-5616 SCHOOL AID: 5% INCREASE** (Reilly & Coogan) This act would mandate a yearly increase of at least 5% in state education funding to each municipality. Finance

**H-5626 SCHOOL AID** (Story & Others) This resolution creates a 12-member special house commission whose purpose it shall be to conduct a comprehensive review of state aid for education to communities in Rhode Island including the advisability of establishing a school aid formula. Finance

**H-5628 SCHOOL AID: 5% INCREASE** (Gorham & Others) This act would provide for an annual minimum 5% increase in state aid to education. Finance

**H-5650 STATE AID FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION** (Reilly & Others) This act would require the state to assume the costs to the cities/towns for special education, starting with 10% of those costs the first year and 100% after 10 years. Finance

**H-5745 MUNICIPAL DEFICITS** (Fox & Others) This act would provide a mechanism to more closely monitor the financial operations of the various cities/towns in order to prevent year-end deficits, and would execute a rapid response to budget problems. Corporations

**H-5755 MAXIMUM LEVY** (Handy) This act would cap the amount a city/town may raise local taxes at 2 ½% annually. Corporations

**H-5877 REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDING** (Kennedy) This act would require approval by the governing body of each city/town participating in a



regional school district of a contribution to the school district budget which would cause the tax levy of that city/town to exceed the tax levy 5.5% cap. Finance

**H-5898 STATE MANDATES** (Kilmartin) This act would delay, for one calendar year, the effective date of any regulation if it has a fiscal impact on a municipality or school district. Corporations

**H-5908 MUNICIPAL BUDGETS** (Handy) This act would cap the amount a city/town can increase their budget to a maximum of 2.5%. Corporations

**H-5946 MANDATORY REVALUATIONS** (Schadone & Corvese) This act would change the current schedule for the required revaluation of municipal real estate so that revaluations would be required every 10 years not the current 9 years and updated 5 years from the last revaluation not the current 3 years. Corporations

**H-5967 TAX SALES** (SanBento & Corvese) This act would make numerous changes to the tax sales law. Judiciary

**H-6072 URBAN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT** (Fox & Others) This act would create the "Urban Investment Tax Credit Act of 2003" for the purpose of stimulating investment in urban areas for homeownership and improvement of rental property in those areas. Finance

**H-6084 HOTEL TAX** (Brien & Others) This act would give 21% of the hotel tax to the Rhode Island Division of Tourism for use exclusively to provide statewide tourism. Finance

**H-6145 URBAN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT** (Dennigan & Others) This act would create the "Urban Investment Tax Credit Act of 2003" for the purpose of stimulating investment in urban areas for homeownership and improvement of rental property in those areas. Finance

**H-6147 STATE AID TO LIBRARIES** (Dennigan & Others) This act would provide \$2.5 million in FY 2004, which amount would increase in increments of \$1 million each year through FY 2008, for construction aid for public libraries. Finance

### **LABOR RELATIONS**

**H-5674 PUBLIC WORKS** (Moura & Others) This act would amend and clarify the definition of public works. Labor

**H-5675 PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS** (Moura & Others) This act would allow private rights of action by an employee or any organization representing such employee against a contractor for violations of payment of wages provisions of a contract. Labor

**H-5676 PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT ACT** (Moura & Others) This act would allow a public entity to use a project labor agreement on a public works project. Labor

**H-5770 SCHOOL TEACHER DISPUTES** (Gallison & Others) This act would require the bargaining agents for teachers and non-teacher school district employees and a school committee to submit their last best offer as to salary to a mediator. Labor

**H-5776 LABOR DISPUTES** (Lally & Anguilla) This act would require parties meet and negotiate as a condition for the issuance of a temporary or permanent injunction in any public sector labor dispute. Labor

**H-5922 HEALTH CARE FACILITIES** (Moura & Others) This act would prohibit health care facilities from using funds received from any governmental unit for activities to assist, promote, deter, or discourage union organizing. H.E.W.

### **LIQUOR CONTROL AND LICENSES**

**H-5739 ENTERPRISE ZONES – BINGO ALLOWED** (Williams & Others) This act would allow retail establishments, located in enterprise zones and holding entertainment licenses, to be granted licenses to conduct the game of bingo. Finance

**H-6079 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES** (DeSimone) This act would prohibit establishments from serving alcohol when persons under the age of 21 are present in the establishment. Corporations

**H-6163 CLASS F LICENSES** (Menard & Others) This act would grant the Department of Health statewide authority to issue all caterers' licenses to sell alcoholic beverages. It would also set forth minimum standards for the department to issue such licenses. Labor

**H-6171 FURTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSES** (Laroche) This act would require holders of the enumerated alcohol sales licenses to comply with alcohol server training regulations prior to renewal of their licenses. Corporations

**H-6182 SUNDAY SALES** (Costantino & Others) This act would permit motor vehicle dealers to open for business on Sunday. Finance

**H-6187 CLASS D LICENSES** (Crowley & Others) This act would provide that a retailer's Class D license would not be issued to authorize the sale of beverages in any building when an adjoining property owner within 200 feet of any point of the building files an objection to the granting of the license. Corporations

## **PLANNING AND ZONING**

**H-5844 ZONING ORDINANCES** (Coderre & Menard) This act would amend the definition of "Family Day Care Home" and provide a definition for "Family Group Day Care Home" as they pertain to municipal zoning ordinances. H.E.W.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE**

**H-5542 DEATH BENEFITS: POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS** (Ajello & Others) This act would provide that a surviving domestic partner of a deceased police officer, correctional officer or firefighter would be included in the definition of the word "family" for purposes of this section, and thus would be entitled to a one time death benefit. Corporations

**H-5590 DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** (Montanaro & Others) This act would increase the penalties for operating an automobile under the influence of alcohol. This act would also lower the blood alcohol level at which a person is deemed to be driving while impaired in certain instances to eight one-hundredths of one percent (.08%). Judiciary

**H-5631 DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** (Schadone & Others) This act would make it a felony for anyone to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence with a passenger under the age of 16. Judiciary

**H-5640 WEAPONS** (Ajello & Others) This act would prohibit anyone who is the subject of a restraining order issued as the result of violence from purchasing, owning, carrying, transporting, or having in his/her possession any firearm. Judiciary

**H-5655 SEXUAL OFFENDER** (Flaherty & Others) This act would amend the sexual offender registration and community notification law. Judiciary

**H-5672 NURSING HOME PATIENTS** (Palumbo & Lima) This act would require nursing home administrators to report abuse of residents to the state police or the police department of the municipality where the abuse occurred. Judiciary

**H-5697 WEAPONS** (Brien & Others) This act would criminalize the unlawful discharge of a firearm on school grounds if the discharge creates a substantial risk of death or serious personal injury to another person. Judiciary

**H-5701 TUITION TO CHILDREN OF POLICE OFFICERS** (Corvese) This act would eliminate tuition benefits to the family of any disabled police officer who

obtains alternative employment at a compensation 3 times that of his/her former salary. Corporations

**H-5728 LAW ENFORCEMENT CANDIDATES** (Slater & Others) This act would require law enforcement candidates to have 2 years of military experience or an associate's degree from an accredited college or university. Corporations

**H-5762 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS** (Reilly & Coogan) This act would establish a pulmonary and coronary disease disability for firefighters who, because of pulmonary or coronary disease, are unable to perform their duties. Corporations

**H-5791 ADMINISTRATION OF CHEMICAL TEST** (McNamara & Others) This act would allow a peace officer to request a search warrant which would allow the taking of blood, breath or urine, or performing a chemical test if probable cause exists to believe that an individual has been driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics. Judiciary

**H-5816 DOGS** (Lewiss & Others) This act would define procedures and penalties relating to sheltering, tethering and nourishment of dogs. H.E.W.

**H-5817 ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT OF 2003** (Lewiss & Others) This act would define and provide penalties for various acts of animal abuse, cruelty and neglect; would create a cause of action for the intentional or negligent death of a pet; and would establish a program for the certification of technicians to administer euthanasia drugs by those who have successfully completed a course approved by the Director of the Department of Health. This act also provides for euthanizing animals. H.E.W.

**H-5835 BURNING IN OPEN FIRES** (Gorham & Moffitt) This act would permit open fires where it is for the purpose of instruction, provided such activity is under the direct control and supervision of qualified instructors who have obtained written permission of the director and, further provided, that the material to be burned has tested negative for lead paint or hazardous substances. H.E.W.

**H-5862 PUBLIC RECORDS** (Savage & Others) This act would provide that information developed and adopted as security measures against terrorism would not be deemed to be "public records" for purposes of access to public records. Judiciary

**H-5863 WEAPONS** (Williamson & Landroche) This act would give cities and towns discretion to issue concealed weapon permits to eligible applicants. Judiciary

**H-5864 IMMIGRATION STATUS PROTECTION ACT** (Tejada & Others) This act would restrict state and local law enforcement from ascertaining a person's immigration status. Judiciary

**H-5906 POLICE – INCENTIVE PAY** (Landroche & Williamson) This act would require that payments for education incentives be made directly to the individual police officer. Corporations

**H-5917 MOTOR VEHICLES** (Kennedy & Lewiss) This act would delete the provision of the general laws which would limit the use of the Segway personnel movers and other electric personal assistive mobility devices (EPAMD). Corporations

**H-5935 WEAPONS** (McCauley & Others) This act would make it unlawful for any person to knowingly receive, transport or possess any firearm which has had the serial number removed. Judiciary

**H-6010 INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS** (Scott & Others) This act would provide law enforcement officials with the authority to obtain information from internet service providers pursuant to an administrative subpoena authorized by a chief of police, superintendent of state police or by an assistant attorney general. Judiciary

**H-6011 ADMINISTRATION OF CHEMICAL TEST** (Scott & Others) This act would establish the procedures for the administration of a chemical test in cases where death results, and an individual refuses to consent to such test. Judiciary

**H-6014 REPORTS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS** (Long & Others) This act would increase from \$1,000 to \$5,000 the threshold amount of damage that would require law enforcement to report when investigated. It also would amend the reference to R.I.G.L. Section 31-26-6 from \$500 to \$1,000. Judiciary

**H-6081 DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION** (Menard & Others) This act would add the surrender of all firearms in a person's possession, care, custody, or control to the local police department to the list of protective orders pursuant to a complaint filed due to domestic abuse. Judiciary

**H-6082 DOMESTIC ASSAULT** (Menard & Others) This act would expand the protective orders for a domestic abuse victim to include ordering a defendant to surrender all firearms to the local police. Judiciary

**H-6091 TRAFFIC VIOLATION – SEARCH** (Almeida & Others) This act would prevent any law enforcement officer from searching a vehicle based solely on a traffic violation. Judiciary

**H-6092 LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION** (Almeida & Others) This act would create a commission within the executive department to act as the accreditation authority for Rhode Island law enforcement agencies. Judiciary

**H-6093 LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING** (Almeida) This act would enact a comprehensive revision of law enforcement standards and training to promote and foster professionalism. Judiciary

**H-6101      SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION** (Palumbo) This act would establish a sex offender board of review and a sex offender community notification unit. This act would also establish certain powers and duties. Judiciary

**H-6102      EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES** (Almeida & Others) This act would establish protocols for eyewitness identification procedures. Judiciary

**H-6104      DNA DETECTION** (Dennigan & Others) This act would extend the applicability of the "DNA detection of felony offender" chapter to include offenders convicted of a felony. Judiciary

**H-6128      FIRE SAFETY** (Fox & Others) A joint resolution creating a special legislative commission to study all aspects of law and regulation concerning pyrotechnic displays and fire safety. Placed on House Calendar

### **RETIREMENT**

**H-5567      COMPOSITION OF RETIREMENT BOARD** (Faria) This act would allow 1 retired teacher to the retirement board to be elected by retired teachers in the system; 1 retired state employee to be elected by retired state employees in the system; 1 retired municipal employee to be elected by the retired municipal workers in the system. Finance

**H-5617      POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT** (Carter) This act would increase the amount of part-time gross pay retired professors and teachers may earn from employment by a state college or the Department of Education from \$12,000 to \$30,000. Finance

**H-5625      POVERTY LEVEL ADJUSTMENT** (Mumford & Others) This act would provide an increase in retirement benefits to certain retired teachers whose pensions are below the sum of \$18,000 as of January 1, 2003. Finance

**H-5652      TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Crowley & Sherlock) This act would enable school superintendents to be excluded from the teachers' retirement system. Finance

**H-5743      MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Fox) This act would allow pension exemptions from a military retirement system to count as credit in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System. Corporations

**H-5905      REEMPLOYMENT OF RETIRED MEMBERS** (Rose) This act would raise the days that municipal employees are permitted to reenter the service from 75 to not more than 150 days. Corporations

**H-5962 CETA EMPLOYEES** (Smith) This act would allow the purchase of service credit for time served as an employee of this state while under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). Finance

**H-6133 RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS** (Watson & Others) This act would provide that an actuarial study would be conducted annually to determine the unfunded liability for retiree health benefits, and the state shall establish a separate fund for retiree health. Finance

**H-6190 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Watson) This act would give retired state employees and teachers and their beneficiaries a cost-of-living increase equal to 3% or a rate equal to the total percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, whichever rate is lower. Finance

### **TOWN AND CITY CLERKS**

**H-5578 PUBLIC RECORDS** (Ginaitt & Others) This resolution would create a 15-member special legislative commission whose purpose it would be to review the Rhode Island General Laws pertaining to access to public records. Judiciary

**H-5636 PROBATE NOTICE BY ADVERTISEMENT** (Lewiss) This act would amend the provisions for the giving of notice of probate court hearings by advertisement in certain probate matters. Judiciary

**H-5663 OPEN MEETINGS** (Fox) This act would require an additional online posting of all meeting notices and agendas of public bodies. Judiciary

**H-5664 PROBATE PRACTICE – CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT** (Fox) This act would impose an affirmative duty upon the executor or administrator of a decedent's estate to contact the Division of Taxation, child support enforcement unit, to determine if there are any outstanding child support arrearages due and owing from the decedent and/or by a person entitled to receive any distribution from the estate in any form whatsoever. Judiciary

**H-5700 PUBLIC RECORDS – PARENTAL RIGHT TO KNOW** (Reilly & Corvese) This act would provide that any person or entity in possession of information, records or documents relating to a minor child would provide access to the information, records or documents to the minor's parent or legal guardian. Judiciary

**H-5861 SAME GENDER MARRIAGES** (Handy & Others) This act would authorize same gender marriages. Judiciary

**H-5868 POWERS OF FIDUCIARIES** (Lewiss) This act would recognize the doctrine of virtual representation, and would apply to all actions involving wills,

trusts, estates and fiduciaries commenced after the effective date of the act. Judiciary

**H-5869 GUARDIAN AD LITEM** (Lewiss) This act would eliminate the requirement that a probate court appoint a guardian ad litem in all instances when an interested person requests such an appointment. This act would also make clear that Rhode Island recognizes the concept of virtual representation. Judiciary

**H-5933 MARRIAGE LICENSES** (Lewiss) This act would implement a statewide electronic marriage license issuance and record registration system. Judiciary

**H-6051 PUBLIC RECORDS** (Dennigan & Others) This act would amend the definitions and clarify the provisions of the public records and open meetings laws. This act would also increase the fines for violating the open meetings law. Judiciary

**H-6189 VITAL RECORDS: SUICIDE** (Scott) This act would provide that a cause of death of suicide would not be disclosed in vital records except as provided by regulation or upon court order. Judiciary

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**H-5637 CODE OF ETHICS** (Ajello) This act would revise the code of ethics. Judiciary

**H-5649 CASINO GAMBLING** (Landroche & Watson) This act would prohibit casino gambling in certain locations. Finance

**H-5682 CODE OF ETHICS** (Reilly & Others) This act would revise the code of ethics. Judiciary

**H-5724 LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING** (Gallison & Others) This act would lower the standard from 10% to 5% for a community to meet the standard for low and moderate income housing. Corporations

**H-5752 PEDESTRIANS** (Ajello & Others) This act would require landowners to maintain their sidewalks, and also would require that school crosswalks be painted every 6 months. Corporations



**H-5754      PARKING CASH-OUT PROGRAM** (Ajello & Others) This act would provide for employer-sponsored parking subsidy programs which give the employee the option of receiving subsidized parking or a monthly transit pass. This act would allow cities and towns to grant appropriate reductions in parking requirements otherwise applicable to new and existing commercial developments to employers that implement parking cash-out programs for those developments. Corporations

**H-5773      GENETIC TESTING** (Coderre & Others) This act would prohibit employers and employment agencies from denying employment, and would prohibit licensing agencies from denying occupational licenses based on a refusal to submit to genetic testing by the employee or applicant. This act would provide for confidentiality of genetic information with certain exceptions. Labor

**H-5788      EVICTION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE** (Corvese) This act would allow for eviction of residential tenants due to noncompliance with provisions of federal law, regulation or a federally mandated lease provision. Judiciary

**H-5798      HEALTH INSURANCE** (Reilly & Corvese) This act would prohibit the state from using governmental funds for induced abortions or the promotion thereof. In addition, this act would enable Rhode Island municipalities to exclude coverage for induced abortions. Finance

**H-5800      CODE OF ETHICS** (Palumbo) This act would reduce the number of persons who are required to file financial statements with the ethics commission. Finance

**H-5814      STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS COMMISSION** (Anderson) This act would add language to include local school districts and school committees within the membership and purpose of the state-local relations commission. H.E.W.

**H-5881      MILL BUILDING AND ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION** (Schadone) This act would allow real estate developers who renovate old mills for residential use to receive business tax credits. Finance

**H-5932      PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS** (Moura) This act would establish bidding requirements for contractors bidding on public works contracts. Labor

**H-5999      INTERPRETERS FOR DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS** (Wasylyk) This act would require all courts in this state to provide interpreting in all proceedings in which a party is non-English speaking. Judiciary

**H-6047      PUBLIC EXPENSE BURIALS** (Watson & Long) This act would make amendments to the Public Assistance Act to clarify the process to provide burial for the unclaimed bodies of persons who may die in the state. H.E.W.

**H-6053      WORKERS' SAFETY** (Dennigan & Others) This act would establish and create the "Rhode Island Workers' Safety Act of 2003". Labor

**H-6067      URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE** (Dennigan & Others) This act would create a State Urban Infrastructure Commission. Corporations

**H-6095      GAMBLING ACTIVITIES** (Williamson) This act would prohibit payments to government bodies in exchange for legislation to not allow or to prohibit the introduction or expansion of gambling activities or gambling facilities. Corporations

**H-6146      URBAN RENAISSANCE** (Dennigan & Others) This act would create the Urban Renaissance Investment Trust Fund. Finance